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ABSTRACT

Information on Australia's Deakin University, incorporated in 1975 to absorb the Gordon Institute of Technology and the State College of Victoria, Geelong, is presented. Attention is directed to educational heritage, transition for students, schools and courses, enrollments, location, temporary sites, buildings, student facilities and organizations, student housing, student services, off-campus (external) studies, and staff appointments. Deakin initially was to include six schools (education, pure and applied sciences, engineering and architecture, social sciences, humanities, and business) and was to admit students who satisfied normal entry requirements, as well as capable and motivated adult students who did not meet the regular admission criteria. Although most students enrolled at the other two institutions were full-time, provision would be made for part-time students in some courses. One of Deakin's chief responsibilities that distinguished it from other Victorian universities was the provision of college courses for students who were unable to attend classes on campus. For these students, there would be first-level courses in the humanities/social science area. It was planned to offer advanced courses so that students could complete a Bachelor of Arts degree off campus, and to make available a conversation course for teacher inservice education. (SW)

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Deakin University: A New Beginning

J.E.Gough

A new university is an exciting place and Deakin, Victoria's fourth University and Australia's nineteenth, is no exception. It is the first Victorian university to be located outside the Metropolitan area and is charged with the responsibility of extending to those who are unable to attend classes on campus, the opportunity to gain a university education at a distance. Over the years many Geelong citizens have worked to have a university established in this region and for them Deakin represents the realisation of their hopes and the reward for their efforts.

Name

It is named after a distinguished Australian, Alfred Deakin, born in Fitzroy of English parents in 1856. Deakin attended Melbourne Church of England Grammar School and graduated in law from Melbourne University in 1877. He wrote for *The Age* and entered the Victorian Parliament as member for West Bourke in 1880. His name is associated with the Factories Act (1885) and the Irrigation Act (1886). He became a strong advocate of federation, entered federal politics and became Australia's second prime minister, resigning from Parliament in 1913 and dying six years later.

Educational Heritage

Unlike most Australian universities, Deakin is not starting *ab initio*. Although it was incorporated as recently as 21 January 1975, under the Deakin University Act, it inherits an educational tradition that goes back the better part of a century.

During that time the Gordon Institute of Technology, as it became known in 1921, was establishing a reputation in engineering, architecture and particularly in textile education and research, to mention only a few of the fields of science and technology in which it offered courses. In 1965 it became a college of advanced education affiliated with the Victoria Institute of Colleges, offering a wide range of diploma level courses. Since then it has developed degree courses in Architecture, Arts, Business, Engineering and Applied Science, the latter including Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Computing, Textile Chemistry and Textile Technology. Most recently the Gordon has introduced a degree course in Nutrition and a Graduate Diploma in Dietitics which is the only registerable qualification for dietitians in the State of Victoria. These courses together with a number of diploma courses will be absorbed into Deakin University.

In addition, Deakin will take over the functions of the State College of Victoria, Geelong, which provides a professionally recognised teaching qualification for students wishing to become primary teachers.

Because of this academic base on which Deakin is building, it will be able to offer students a wider range of educational opportunities than would normally be the case with a new university.

Transition

Naturally, when two fully operational institutions are to be taken over in creating a new university, care has to be taken not to interrupt the studies of existing students. In order to do this Deakin university will take over responsibility for tertiary education in Geelong in two stages.

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On 31 March 1977 it will take over administrative responsibility for the Gordon and the State College. On that date the Gordon, as a College of Advanced Education, and the State College will cease to exist and students of these institutions enrolled in approved tertiary courses will become students of Deakin University. They will thus continue their studies without interruption.

The second stage will occur in the following year, 1978, when students including those who are enrolling for the first time as well as those who are continuing their studies, will enrol at the beginning of the academic year as Deakin students.

Clearly then, students who are enrolled in the courses listed below when Deakin takes over in 1977 will not suffer any interruption to their academic studies. Students who are enrolled in courses not being continued by Deakin will be able, subject to satisfactory academic performance, to complete their courses of study and receive an appropriate award. However, as in every dynamic educational organisation, courses are continually being modified and improved in the light of experience, additional resources and the changing needs of society. Such educational development will undoubtedly occur in Deakin.

Schools and Courses

The academic organisation of Deakin initially is into six schools each of which will be responsible for a number of existing undergraduate courses. In addition to the undergraduate courses listed new courses are being prepared in several schools. All of the courses listed are professionally recognised and accredited.

School of Education - Dean: Professor J.G. Wallace

Diploma of Teaching (Primary)

School of Pure & Applied Sciences - Dean: Professor M.H. Briggs

Bachelor of Applied Science
- Applied Chemistry
- Textile Chemistry
- Textile Technology
- Mathematics, Physics, Computing
- Nutrition

Diploma of Applied Science
- Applied Chemistry
- Mathematics, Physics, Computing

School of Engineering & Architecture - Dean: Professor R.A. Williams

Bachelor of Engineering
- Civil
- Electrical

Bachelor of Architecture
Diploma of Mechanical Engineering

School of Social Sciences - Dean: Professor F.J. West

A completely new school in which courses are currently being designed.

School of Humanities - Dean: Professor M.J. Charlesworth

Bachelor of Arts
- Vocational Writing

Diploma of Arts in Vocational Writing
Diploma of Art & Design
- Graphic Design
- Industrial Design
- Textile Design
- Fine Art

School of Business - Acting Dean: Professor F.J. West

Bachelor of Business
Diploma of Business Studies
Accounting
Data Processing

Graduate and Post Graduate Studies in 1977

Students will be accepted for enrolment in the

Graduate Diploma of Electronic Computation, and the
Graduate Diploma in Dietetics

and it is expected that a revised

Graduate Diploma in Textiles

will be available shortly.

Enrolments are currently being accepted for Master's degrees by research in

Applied Sciences and
Engineering

The availability of higher degrees both by research and coursework will increase as additional staff are appointed.

Students interested in undertaking higher degrees by research and thesis at either Master's or Doctoral level are invited to contact the Dean of the appropriate school or the Dean of Students.

Enrolments

Students who wish to enrol for courses in 1977 offered at the Gordon and the State College should do so through the normal VUAC procedures. Full information about the courses available and the pre-requisites for them, is contained in the VUAC Guide for Prospective Students. Students wishing to obtain further information or advice about 1977 enrolments are invited to write to

Academic Registrar,
Gordon Institute of Technology,
P.O. Box 125,
Belmont, Victoria, 3216

or to

The Principal,
State College of Victoria, Geelong,
Vines Road,
North Geelong, Victoria, 3215

In the following year, 1978, Deakin will continue to participate in the VUAC system and will admit students who have satisfied normal university entry requirements through the Higher School Certificate examination or Tertiary Orientation Year. In the case of mature age students, admission may be granted to students who demonstrate the capacity and the motivation to cope with university studies. Deferred entry may be granted to students who wish to spend a year between completing high school and starting on their tertiary education.

While most of the tertiary students currently enrolled at the Gordon Institute and the State College are full time, provision is made for part time students in some courses. Business Studies in particular conducts a substantial program of evening classes. Evening classes are also held in some subjects in one or two other courses. In many cases, however, it is not possible to mount separate evening classes but part time students may join day classes.

Quotas for 1st Year Enrolments

During the past triennium both the Gordon Institute and the Stage College were compelled to restrict first year enrolments in a number of courses because of staffing, accommodation and financial difficulties. In the present financial climate Deakin, reluctantly, will have to continue with these restrictions. The courses mainly affected are

Bachelor of Applied Sciences (Nutrition)
Bachelor of Architecture
Bachelor of Arts/Diploma of Arts (Vocational Writing)
Diploma of Art & Design
Bachelor of Business/Diploma of Business

However, there should be no difficulty in providing places for those interested in Applied Science courses in Chemistry, Textiles, Mathematics, Physics and Computing or in Civil, Electrical or Mechanical Engineering.

Location

The University campus is being established on two hundred acres of undulating countryside at Waurn Ponds, some eight kilometres south of Geelong on the site previously being developed by the Gordon Institute of Technology. With a population of 120 000 Geelong provides adequately for the social, cultural and commercial needs of the community. A divided highway links the city with Melbourne and allows residents of Geelong to enjoy the facilities of a large metropolis without the disadvantages of living in a crowded city. At the other end of the spectrum Geelong is situated near several of the finest surfing beaches in Australia and some of the most spectacular scenery on the southern coastline. For those concerned with 'quality of life' issues, Deakin will have considerable attraction.

Temporary Sites

For some years the University will continue its operations on several sites. The School of Education will be located at the Vines Road site of the State College, Geelong. The School of Engineering will remain on the city site of the Gordon Institute of Technology, together with Art and Design. However, as soon as funds allow all schools of the University will be brought together on the new campus.

Buildings and Building Priorities

Although Deakin will continue to use the buildings on other sites as long as necessary the main thrust in developing the university campus will be at Waurn Ponds.

At present there are three major buildings on the new campus. One of these is a three storey building providing some 120 000 square feet of space with modern science facilities and equipment which will house the new school of Pure and Applied Sciences. The Library Building which was completed in 1975 is expected to provide adequate space for the University library during the next 8 - 10 years as the temporary occupants in Business, Humanities and Mathematics move to new quarters. The third building is the first stage of a student residential complex which currently provides 60 student places and has been operating successfully for three years.

Deakin's urgent needs are for more teaching accommodation and for union facilities. The building priorities accepted by the Interim Council reflect these needs. In addition various avenues are being explored to find solutions to the urgent problem of insufficient residential places for students.

Student Facilities and Organisations

In 1977 Deakin will have almost 2000 full time students and nearly 500 part time students. About half of these will be located on the Waurn Ponds Campus with some two thirds of the remainder being at the Vines Road site (School of Education).

For a new university this is a healthy student body. It will also be an active student body inasmuch as both the Gordon Institute and the State College, Geelong, have energetic SRC's and Sports Associations.

Facilities are available for a wide range of activities and students are active in football, badminton, basketball, bushwalking and canoeing, billiards, hockey, netball, snow skiing, squash, surfing, table tennis, tae kwon do, tennis, water skiing.

Amongst the social programs put on by students are some that bring leading overseas entertainers onto the campus.

Student bulletins and a newspaper are published regularly.

Students are represented on all the major boards and committees of both institutions.

Student Accommodation

Student accommodation is available on the Waurn Ponds campus for sixty students. An evening meal is provided seven days a week and facilities exist for students to prepare breakfast and lunch. Each student has his own room. Tariff is currently $20 a week but subject to regular review.

The Education Department runs a number of hostels situated near the centre of Geelong in which students share rooms and receive breakfast as well as an evening meal. Currently $23 a week is the tariff also subject to regular review.

In addition, students who need to secure private board may be assisted to find accommodation by Student Services.

Student Services

Currently include professionally qualified student counsellors and a student services officer who manages the Waurn Ponds student residences and services the Student Loan Fund. Plans are in hand to develop a Careers and Appointments Service in 1977 and to establish the beginnings of a Health Service with a nursing sister on campus and sessional medical clinics.

Off Campus (External) Studies

One of the chief responsibilities of Deakin which distinguishes it from other Victorian universities is that of providing university courses for students who are unable to attend classes on campus.

Deakin is proposing of have its first off campus offerings available in 1978. These will be first level subjects in the Humanities/Social Science area. It will probably be possible to offer only two subjects in that year. In subsequent years the range of first level offerings will be increased and second and third level courses will be offered so that students will be able to complete a Bachelor of Arts Degree off campus. In addition, a conversion course will be available for teachers wishing to upgrade their qualifications through an additional year of training.

Courses will be prepared by Course Development Teams somewhat on the Open University model and use will be made of modern educational technology.

Study centres will be set up, perhaps in conjunction with other educational centres, in the major towns and cities of Victoria where there is a demonstrated need for off campus facilities.

Admission to off campus courses will take account of the age and maturity of candidates, their previous educational opportunities and their capacity and motivation to cope with a

university course, so that the absence of formal educational qualifications will not necessarily debar any student.

Those interested in off campus studies at Deakin University should write in the first instance to the Dean of Students.

Staff Appointments

In preparation for taking over these responsibilities, Deakin has made its initial staff appointments. The Vice Chancellor, Dr F.R. Jevons, previously Professor and Head of the Department of Liberal Studies in Science at Manchester University, has taken up his appointment. Five of the six planning Deans for the new Schools of the University have been appointed. These are Francis West (Australian National University), Max Charlesworth (Melbourne University), Iain Wallace (University of Southampton), Michael Briggs (Gordon Institute). Many of the academic staff at the Gordon and the State College have received offers of appointment to Deakin.

Reflecting its strong concern for students, Deakin has made one of its early appointments the Dean of Students who will administer and coordinate those aspects of university life that particularly concern students.

The Vice Principal (Business Manager) has been appointed and senior staff associated with the Secretariat, Computer Centre, Buildings and Finance have taken up or will take up duty shortly.

Further academic and administrative posts are being established and will be advertised.

Through these appointments Deakin is ensuring that not only will it make full use of the existing educational programs but will add those dimensions of research and scholarship necessary to ensure it a respected place in university education.

University and Community

Although Deakin will serve the wider needs of the State of Victoria members of the Geelong (and regional) community should take special pride in having the university located within the region. It is to be hoped that together the university and the community will share in creating a strong and virile institution of higher learning.